Inclusion of India and China in G-8 Countries

†1031. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia the head of group of G-8 countries are not in favour of including India and China in extended group of G-8 countries; and

(b) if so, reasons for such protest and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No. There is no proposal for the expansion of the G-8, to also include India and China, which is under consideration. The Russian Federation is, however, carrying out consultations with India and other countries in the context of their Presidency of the G-8.

(b) Does not arise.

Rail link with Burma

1032. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to approve to the proposal of Railways for setting up of a rail link with Burma, crossing through the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) by when it would be completed;

(d) whether Government have studied border security situation between North-East and Burma; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) A feasibility study has been conducted for an India-Myanmar rail link. The feasibility study suggested the following alignments.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.